



13900 Laurel Lakes Avenue, Suite 100 Laurel, MD 20707

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# SB 178/HB 212:

# **How MAAP Rules Prevent Consumers from Getting Accurate Price Information**

Under the Minimum Allowable Advertised Price (MAAP) rules many car manufacturers have imposed, manufacturers can penalize auto dealers — and through them consumers — by taking away important supports including advertising support and participation in awards and recognition programs if the dealer advertises a price below the MAAP level online or in print. Many auto manufacturers have, in effect, created a new price — the MAAP — and effectively prohibit dealers from adversing their own discounts that can make their actual selling price more than \$1,500 less than the MAAP price.

The Internet is supposed to help consumers shop and compare prices. But because manufacturers are punishing dealers for advertising prices below their MAAP price, the price information consumers find there is often far from accurate.

### Q: Which manufacturers have a minimum advertised price (MAP)?

A: Cadillac, Honda, Lexus, Mazda, Mercedes Benz, Nissan, Subaru, Toyota, VW have all instituted MAAP pricing guidelines. Hyundai has also announce that it will move in this direction.

MAAP Prices vs. Showroom Prices: The Gap Can Be Very Large

### WHAT MANUFACTURERS REQUIRE: MAP PRICE



### WHAT CONSUMERS WANT: TRANSPARENCY



### WHAT MANUFACTURERS REQUIRE: MAP Price

# MSRP Sayings -\$1,675 Toyota Offer -\$1,000 Final Price \$22,954 Conditional Offers Syor Cash Offer Syor Cash

## WHAT CONSUMERS WANT: Transparency

MSRP: \$25,629

DARCARS Price: \$20,454 after \$1000 rebate plus taxes, tags and \$300 processing fee.